

NEW MEXICO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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SPECIAL SURVEY RESULTS OCTOBER PECAN FORECAST

OCTOBER 2003 EXCLUSIVELY FOR SURVEY RESPONDENTS

PECANS

Dear Respondent:

This issue of the NEW MEXICO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE SPECIAL SURVEY RESULTS covers the results of the Pecan October Forecast. This is being sent exclusively to those of you who responded to our request for data. The information you provided made these published estimates possible. Thank you for your cooperation and the time spent completing the surveys.

Sincerely,



Dwaine C. Nelson
State Statistician

NEW MEXICO: The first forecast for the 2003 pecan production year for New Mexico is 55 million pounds, 19 million pounds over the previous year's production of 36 million pounds. This increase is due to 2003 being the high year in the alternate bearing cycle of pecan trees. The 2003 October forecast is 8% lower than the production in 2001 which also was a high bearing cycle year.

UNITED STATES: The October 1 forecast for 2003 pecan utilized production is 282 million pounds (in-shell basis), up 63 percent from last year's crop but 17 percent below the 2001 crop year. The 2003 season is the high year of the alternate bearing cycle; however, frequent rain and cool, cloudy conditions throughout the summer produced widespread disease problems, particularly in the Southeast States. Fungicide applicators were frequently interrupted by showers. Scab and insect pressure were the two most common problems reported. Improved varieties are expected to make up 210 million pounds or three quarters of the total, while the Native and seedling varieties, at 71.7 million pounds, make up the remaining crop.

All Pecans: Utilized Production 2001-02 and Forecasted October 1, 2003

State	2001	2002	2003
	-----1,000 Pounds-----		
AL	15,000	5,000	8,000
AZ	21,000	16,000	23,500
AR	2,600	1,700	3,300
CA	3,700	3,800	3,700
FL	3,300	1,400	2,100
GA	110,000	45,000	70,000
KS	2,200	2,900	2,300
LA	14,000	6,000	15,000
MS	4,500	3,000	5,000
NM	60,000	36,000	55,000
NC	3,200	1,900	2,500
OK	20,000	10,000	20,000
SC	4,000	200	1,500
TX	75,000	40,000	70,000
US	338,500	172,900	281,900